

SSSP Graduate Student Meeting

Friday, August 21, 2015 2:30pm

Cascade II

Submitted by Graduate Student Representatives to the Board of Directors, Kasey Henricks, Sarah St. John (incoming), and Kathryn Nowotny (outgoing).

Welcome and Introductions

The Graduate Student Meeting was held at a later Friday time compared to the previous year (2:30pm as opposed to 8:30am), and the turnout increased considerably. In total, 19 students were in attendance. This compares to 8 in 2015, 20 in 2014, and 8 in 2013. The attendees were an even mix of 1st time attendees and those who had attended in years past.

Graduate Student Feedback

Student Representatives discussed their experiences with SSSP, why they consider it as their organizational “home,” the different service options available for students to get involved, and some of the various SSSP opportunities available for professional development (e.g., mentoring program, Lee Support Fund, Beth Hess Scholarship, Race/Ethnicity Scholarship, Student Paper Awards, *Social Problems*’ Student Board). Those in attendance were encouraged to attend the Graduate Student Happy Hour, New Member Breakfast, and division meetings and receptions. Students mentioned they were interested a variety of workshops for next year, including something on CV building, nonacademic employment, or the social justice component of SSSP.

Third Annual Graduate Student Workshop

Friday, August 21, 2015 3:00pm

Cascade II

Doing Research with, not on, the Community. This year’s workshop featured an informal presentation on community based research with vulnerable populations from Drs. Alice Cepeda and Avelardo Valdez from the University of Southern California. They discussed their experiences on the doings of this kind of research, from its inception to final product. The discussion incorporated their own experiences with research on drug use among Mexican American gang members in South Texas, sex workers living on the U.S.-Mexico border, Latinx immigrant laborers in post-Katrina New Orleans, aging heroine users in Texas, and crack users in Mexico City. Among the central themes that evolved in conversation with the attendees was how to develop a consistent and coherent research identity, one that can trace a conceptual thread across multiple projects that spans one’s career.